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U.S. Environmental Protection Agency Region 5  
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United States  
Environmental Protection  
Agency

Region 5  
77 West Jackson Boulevard  
Chicago, Illinois 60604

Illinois, Indiana,  
Michigan, Minnesota,  
Ohio, Wisconsin

## Cleanup Activities Begin this Year Third Site

Zionsville, Ind.

February 2003

### For More Information...

on the cleanup, please contact:

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*For Site-related document  
information, please go to page 3.*

### Well Pumps, Containment Wall Part of Cleanup Plan

Cleanup activities will begin this year on a one-acre area north of Indianapolis that was contaminated by leaky drums and storage tanks over 20 years ago. The area is called the Third Site and is located along U.S. Highway 421 in rural Zionsville. U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, Region 5 will provide oversight of contractors hired by responsible parties as they perform a six-part cleanup plan. The project addresses four areas of contamination at the site. These areas include an area of soils below the surface that are saturated with mixed liquid chemicals, contaminated soil, and two contaminated areas of water below the ground surface, commonly called groundwater.

EPA signed an *Action Memorandum* in May 2001. The document outlined EPA's cleanup plan for the site. The first phase including design and contractor selection, got underway in December 2002. Most of the construction activities should be completed in 2004. Final cleanup should be achieved by 2014. The phases include the following:

#### **Phase 1**

- Planning, design and selection of a contractor before the cleanup begins.

#### **Phase 2**

- Installing containment walls to surround the soil saturated with liquid chemicals and a system to pump out as much of the contained liquid as it can. A chemical, such as hydrogen peroxide, will then be injected into the same area. It will break down most of the chemicals remaining in soil and groundwater to harmless by-products.
- Installing a vapor extraction system in shallow ground. The system will capture hazardous chemicals called volatile organic compounds, referred to as VOCs, before they can seep into the air or groundwater.

#### **Phase 3**

- Water from the contained area will be sampled after the chemical injection.
- A cover will be placed over the contained area when the VOCs are cut by 90 percent. This will prevent further mixing with rainwater as

it sinks into the ground, which would otherwise furtherspread contamination to soil and ground-water.

**Phase 4**

- Installing wells with pumps in the two areas of contaminated groundwater. The pumps will remove contaminated groundwater. The progress of this phase will be measured every three months by testing groundwater collected from monitoring wells.
- The placement of legal controls, also called institutional controls, such as deed restrictions, on adjacent properties in the area to prevent the use of surface water and groundwater, until it is cleaned up.

**Phase 5**

- The groundwater pumps will be stopped when VOCs drop by 90 percent at the monitoring wells.

- Post-removal groundwater monitoring will then begin to ensure that any remaining contamination continues to break down.

**Phase 6**

- Monitoring will stop when we have confirmed that the cleanup reduced contamination to a level considered safe. That level was outlined in the *Action Memorandum*. When the cleanup finishes, the deed restrictions may be lifted.

**Site In Rural Area Near Indianapolis**

The Third Site sits in a mostly agricultural area with some nearby growing residential and business development. It is north of Zionsville in Boone County, Indiana, about 10 miles northwest of Indianapolis. The area is located on the east side of U.S. 421 about one mile south of Indiana 32. It is bordered on the east by the Northside Landfill, on the south by Finley Creek, on the west by Rt. 421, and on the north by a home, a

construction materials recycling business, and the Envirochem Site. To the west of Highway 421 is pastureland for a commercial horse-breeding facility (see Figure 1).

**Site Used for Truck Parking and Drum Storage**

The site was used in the mid- to late-1970s for tank and drum storage and truck parking associated with the adjacent Envirochem site. EPA believes these activities contaminated the soil and groundwater. Storage and disposal activities stopped in 1983. Soil and groundwater samples were collected in 1987 and 1992 by the companies deemed responsible for the contamination and collected again in 1998 by EPA. The samples revealed high levels of volatile organic compounds and related chemicals in the site’s soil, groundwater, and surface water.

In 1996, part of Finley Creek was moved 40 feet away from a Third Site pond believed to be a source of contamination.

More samples were collected in 1999 and 2000 to determine the nature and extent of the problems so cleanup options could be studied. A report called the *Engineering Evaluation and Cost Analysis* was finished in October 2000. This study compared cleanup choices for the four areas of contamination at the site. In 2001, EPA selected the current plan as the most effective method with a reasonable cost.

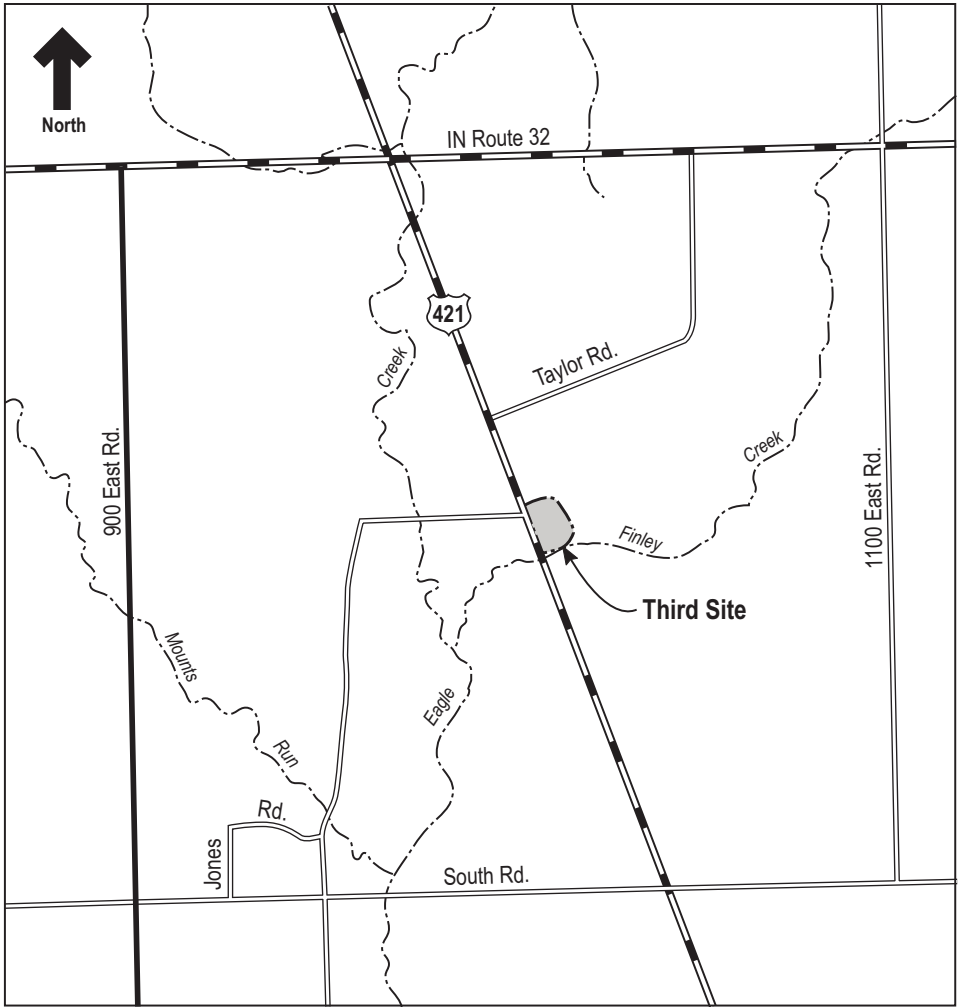
**Site-related documents may be reviewed at:**

Hussey-Mayfield Memorial  
Public Library  
250 North 5th Street  
P.O. Box 840  
Zionsville, IN 46077  
Phone: (317) 873-3149  
Fax: (317) 873-8339

Hours:  
M,T, W, Th 10:00 a.m. - 8:30 p.m.  
F, S 10:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.  
Sun 1:00 p.m. - 5:00 p.m.

Summer Hours: (Jun, Jul, Aug)  
Sundays: closed

Figure 1. Site Location Map



**Mailing List Additions**

If you would like to add your name to the mailing list for Third Site, please fill out this form and mail it to us at the address below:

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Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

Affiliation \_\_\_\_\_

Phone (Daytime) \_\_\_\_\_ (Evening) \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail Address \_\_\_\_\_

Once you are on the mailing list, you will automatically receive information from EPA regarding the Third Site.